Low cost airlines

2891. DR. K. MALAISAMY:
SHRI C. PERUMAL:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the current status and future prospects of low cost airlines in the country;

(b) the number of low cost airlines in the market;

(c) the reasons for their slow growth despite of their tremendous potential in the country, the operational bottlenecks and regulatory constraints currently faced by the Civil Aviation Sector;

(d) whether low cost carriers in Indian Aviation industry has not grown substantially in greater speed and are not going to stabilize in the coming years; and

(e) what would be their pace of growth?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (e) At present, Air Deccan, Spicejet and Go Airlines are the low cost airlines engaged in scheduled domestic air services. Air Deccan commenced scheduled air services in August, 2003 and Spicejet and Go Airlines commenced their scheduled air services in May 2005 and November, 2005 respectively. The number of passengers carried by Air Deccan has increased from 0.51 lakhs in August, 2003 to 19.49 lakhs in November 2005 and by Spicejet from 0.10 lakhs in May, 2005 to 1.22 lakhs in November 2005. Airlines operate in a competitive environment are the pace of growth/stability of various airlines depend on market conditions, passenger preferences, cost of operations etc.

Direct air service between Bhubaneshwar and Bangalore

2892. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:
SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:-

(a) whether it is a fact that there is no direct flight between Bhubaneshwar and Bangalore;